

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 remain in this application. The claims have been amended as set forth above. The claim amendments correct minor informalities in the claims as originally filed. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of claims 1-27.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings and required that Figures 1 and 2 be designated as –Prior Art–. Proposed drawing corrections to Figures 1 and 2 which designate those drawings as Prior Art have been submitted herewith. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

A new title has been required with a new title of “METHOD OR APPARATUS FOR ESTABLISHING A PLUG AND PLAY (PnP) COMMUNICATION CHANNEL VIA AN ABSTRACTION LAYER INTERFACE” being suggested by the Examiner. The Applicant has amended the title according to the Examiner’s request as set forth above.

Claim 20 was objected to due to informalities. Claim 20 has been amended as set forth above to overcome this objection. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to claim 20 is respectfully requested.

Claims 5, 7-15, 18-19 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been overcome by the amendments to the claims as set forth above. Therefore,

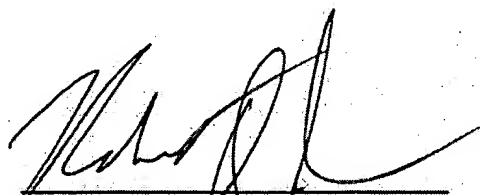
withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of the admitted prior art of Figure 3 of the present application and page 2, last paragraph of the present application, Furner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,974,474), and Fung et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,011). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection based on the following remarks.

The Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to combine the arrangement of Figure 3 of the present application, the description at page 2, last paragraph of the present application, the Furner et al. patent and the Fung et al. patent, except in hindsight in view of the present application. Further, even if one of ordinary skill in the art were motivated to combine these teachings at the time of the present invention, the Applicant respectfully submits that one would not have been motivated to combine these teachings in a manner that would render obvious the claims of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert D. Anderson
Reg. No. 33,826
(815) 633 - 2563

February 27, 2004

Date

Intel Americas, Inc.
2109 Shaw Woods Drive
Rockford, Illinois 61107

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